# WELCOME!

# SUMMIT AVENUE REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN DAC MEETING #1 - FEBRUARY 2022











# **DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DAC)**

#### **City of Saint Paul**

Parks and Recreation

Civil Engineering & Street Design | Barb Mundahl Transportation Planning & Safety | Reuben Collins Mary Norton ..... Brett Hussong Katie Hamerlinck

Bolton & Menk, Inc. —

**Summit Hill Association** 

CapitolRiver Council

Macalester-Groveland Community Council

Union Park District Council

Summit-University Planning Council

Friends of Saint Paul and Ramsey County Parks and Trails

Saint Paul Environmental and Outdoor Education Program

Disability Hub MN

Saint Paul Bicycle Coalition

Summit Avenue Residential Preservation Association (SARPA)

Grand Ave. Business Association

Rondo Center of Diverse Expression

Saint Paul Youth Commission

Lexington-Hamline Community Council

Governor's Residence

**Summit Manor Reception House** 

University of St. Thomas

Macalestar College

Saint Paul College

Ramsey Middle School

Mitchell Hamline School of Law

House of Hope Presbyterian Church

Saint Paul's Cathedral

Scott McBride Maddie Dahlheimer Cody Christianson Mikaela Isaacson

**PROJECT CONTACT** 

Mary Norton (She/Her)

Landscape Architect | Project Manager City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation mary.norton@ci.stpaul.mn.us | 651-266-6407





# **Meeting Framework**

### VIRTUAL MEETING

- Participation / Best Practices
- Content Delivery
- Whiteboard & Breakout Sessions

### **CONTINUOUS ENGAGEMENT**

- Post-Meeting Resources to DAC & Website
- Drop-In Engagement Sessions
- www.engagestpaul.org/summit



12:30-1:00PM

- Session #1: 02/16
- Session #2: 03/16
- Session #3: 04/13



# SUMMIT AVENUE REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN



### Guiding Principles and Role of Design Advisory Committee (DAC)

- 1. Advisory role to Parks and Recreation
- 2. Input balanced with larger citywide needs, Parks and Rec Systems & Vision Plan, Saint Paul Bicycle Plan, Great River Passage & permitting
- 3. Committee members are representing a larger interest group. City website will become central source of information allowing committee members to network and share information.
- 4. Decisions by consensus, not voting
- 5. Work respectfully in group setting
- 6. Understand and balance needs of all park users
- 7. Join Committee with open-mind and willingness to listen and hear views or ideas

**Encourage ideas HERE!** 



www.engagestpaul.org/summit

Scan the QR code or visi

If your group would like to join the DAC, please contact:

Mary Norton - Project Manager, Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Mary.norton@ci.stpaul.mn.us 651-266-6407









## SUMMIT AVENUE REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN

# DROP-IN ENGAGEMENT JOIN US VIRTUALLY OVER YOUR COFFEE OR LUNCH BREAK!





12:30-1:00PM

Session #1: 02/16

Session #2: 03/16

Session #3: 04/13



Phone Conference ID: 212 577 410#

Connect with project staff and community members to ask questions and share your ideas for the Summit Ave. Regional Trail Master Plan



# **Today's Outline**

### INTRODUCTION

- Project Team & Design Advisory Committee
- Meeting Framework & Continued Engagement



### **PROJECT CONTEXT**

- Project Goals & Objectives
- Corridor Evaluation
- Outcome

### **VISION - BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

- Guiding Principles
- Focus Areas and Design Potential
- Brainstorm Work Groups
- Closing & Next Steps





# **PROJECT CONTEXT**













# **Regional Connections**

#### Legend

---- St. Paul City Limits

Summit Avenue Regional Trail Corridor

---- MRCCA Boundary

City Designated Parkway

— Existing Regional Trail

Greenspace - City

Greenspace - County

Greenspace - Federal

#### Keynotes | Regional Parks

1 Hidden Falls

2 Crosby Farm

3 Mississippi River Gorge

4 Lilydale

6 Cherokee

6 Harriet Island

Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary

Indian Mounds

Pig's Eye

Battle Creek

Phalen

Como

Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary

#### **Keynotes | Regional Trails**

 Mississippi River Gorge (East River Parkway)

Mississippi River Gorge (West River Parkway)

6 Minnehaha Parkway

4 Sam Morgan

5 Big Rivers

6 Lilydale

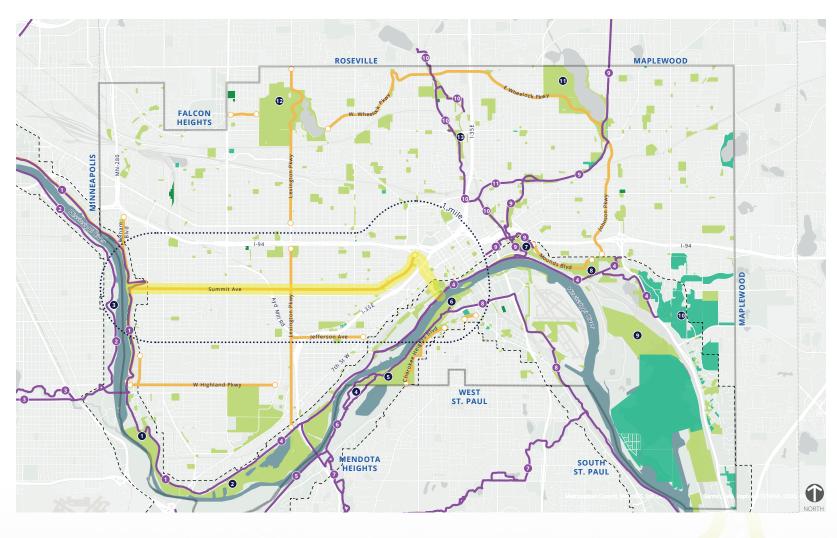
River to River Greenway

8 Robert Piram

9 Bruce Vento

Trout Brook

1 Phalen Boulevard







#### **PROJECT DETAILS & BACKGROUND**

- Summit Ave. is an important link in the parks and trails network for the Metropolitan Region.
- The Master Plan process will review Summit Ave. from the river to downtown Saint Paul and develop a guide for future improvements within City right-of-way.
- Planning will focus on the segment from Lexington to Victoria ahead of planned reconstruction.

#### **WAYS TO ENGAGE**





Join the conversation at www.engagestpaul/summit

#### **PROJECT GOALS**

- Evaluate a regional trail alignment on Summit Ave. to improve recreation experience and safety for all users.
- Identify ways to balance the context of Summit Ave. when modernizing infrastructure.
- Improve connectivity and public access to open space.
- Support the evolving needs of users to create a more resilient, people-oriented corridor.

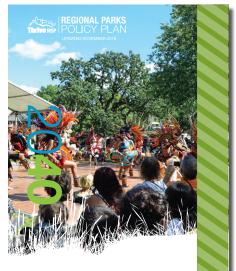




# **Master Plan Process & Trail Planning**

### **REGIONAL PARKS POLICY PLAN**

- Metropolitan Council
- City of Saint Paul Implementing Agency



### WHAT IS A REGIONAL TRAIL?

- Linkage between Regional Parks System components
- Developed for one or more modes of nonmotorized recreational travel
- Off-road facility

### **TIMING & IMPLEMENTATION**

- Regional Solicitation Process: apply for projects 5+ yrs out
- Potential Summit Scenario: 2024 application for 2028 construction



#### ۸V

# **Area Projects**

### SUMMIT AVE. MILL & OVERLAY,

- Snelling to Lexington
- Construction 2022

### SUMMIT AVE. RECONSTRUCTION-

- Lexington to Victoria
- Construction 2023



### **GRAND AVE. RECONSTRUCTION**

- Fairview to Snelling
- Construction 2024

### **REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN**

- MRB to Sam Morgan: Summit, Kellogg and Eagle Pkwy
- Master Plan Process 2021-2022, unfunded for construction





# **Project Schedule**

**FALL - WINTER 2021** 

PHASE 1: CORRIDOR EVALUATION

Corridor inventory and analysis

Reach out to stakeholders and community members

Identify corridor opportunities and constraints

**Community outreach events** 

Web survey

**WINTER - SPRING 2021/2022** 

PHASE 2: DESIGN AND DIRECTION

Begin conceptual design ideas

Identify focus areas and key intersections

Gather input and feedback from technical and community groups

Continue online engagement

**TAC #1** 

**DAC #1** 

**SUMMER 2022** 

PHASE 3: FINAL MASTER PLAN AND APPROVALS

Develop and refine corridor concepts

Draft master plan document for comment and review by public, Board of Commissioners, and Metropolitan Council

Revise and seek feedback as necessary

**TAC #2** 

**DAC #2** 

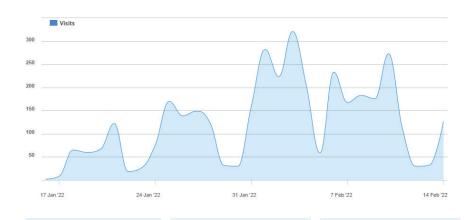




# **Community Engagement**

- On-site events
- Engage Saint Paul
- Surveys
- Site Signage
- Advisory Committees
- Drop-In Virtual Mtgs
- Targeted Engagement





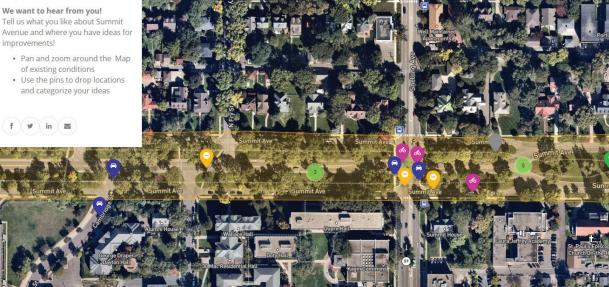
3,679 (Last 30 Days)

59 SITE REGISTRATIONS (Last 30 Days)

58 ACTIVATED PARTICIPANTS (Last 30 Days)

#### Mapping Ideas

#### We want to hear from you!



1,200 informed participants

760 Surveys complete





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



#### **SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK THEMES**

#### GREENSPACE

#### **Trees and Canopy**

- » Limiting impacts to trees, focus on preservation
- » Importance of canopy for shade and parkway experience
- » Ash trees/removals and diversity of species

#### **Park Experience & Connections**

- » Importance of the parkway as local park space
- » Open areas for drop-in, passive recreation
- » Connection opportunities to Ayd Mill

#### Medians & Blvds

- » Maintaining Open Space in the Medians
- » Boulevard as buffer for pedestrians
- » Multiple minor road crossings of median

#### SAFETY

#### **Crossings & Turning Movements**

- » Minimizing conflicts at intersections
- » Lane transitions, free right-turn, & slip-lanes
- » Mid-block and median crossings at intersections

#### **Traffic & Vehicle Speed**

- » Vehicles exceeding speed limits, passing in bike lanes
- » Confusing median to roadway transition areas
- » Vehicles encroaching on crosswalks

#### **Proximity of Uses**

- » More separation between cars, bicycles, and pedestrians
- » Parked cars and door swing conflict with bicycle lanes

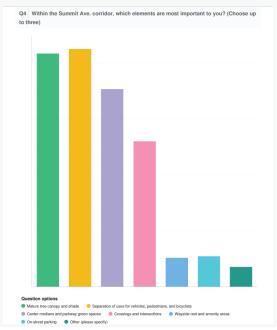
#### FACILITY CONDITIONS

#### Pavement | Roadway & Sidewalk

- » Surface conditions of bituminous are very poor
- » Walkway paver surfaces lift and heave, tripping concerns
- » Wider, 10' walkways east of Dale are highly desirable
- » Snow maintenance conditions inhibit bicycling in lanes
- Desire for more accessible surfaces, year-round

#### **Unpaved Surfaces**

- » Maintain the dirt path in central median space
- » Unique running experience in the City
- » Charming, quaint experiences, unlike other facilities





DRAFT - IN PROCESS 2021





# **Existing Conditions**



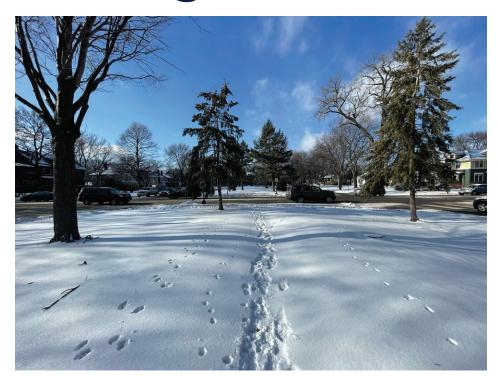








# **Existing Conditions**





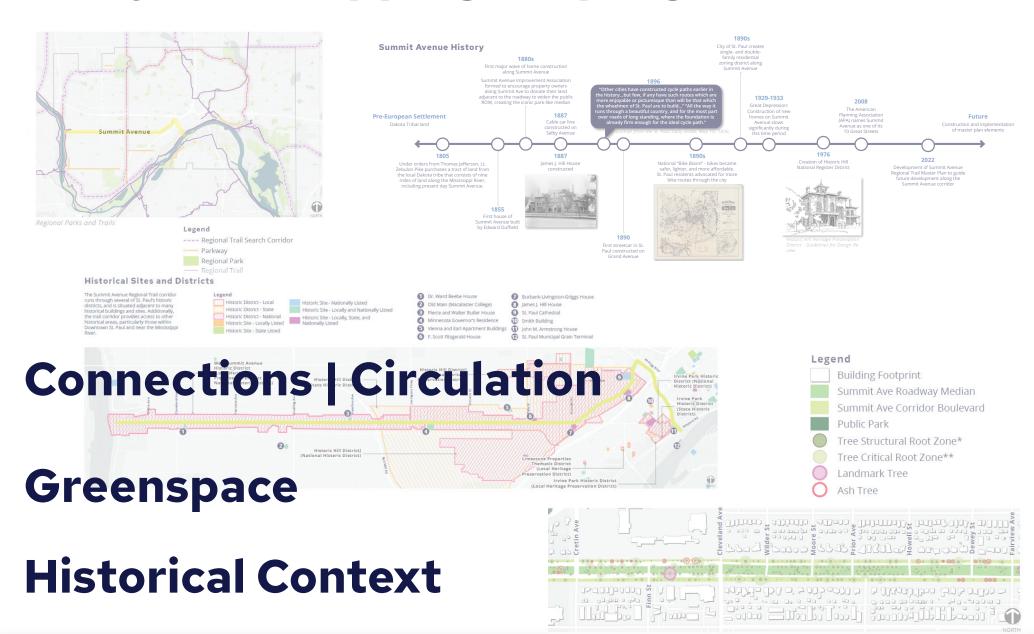








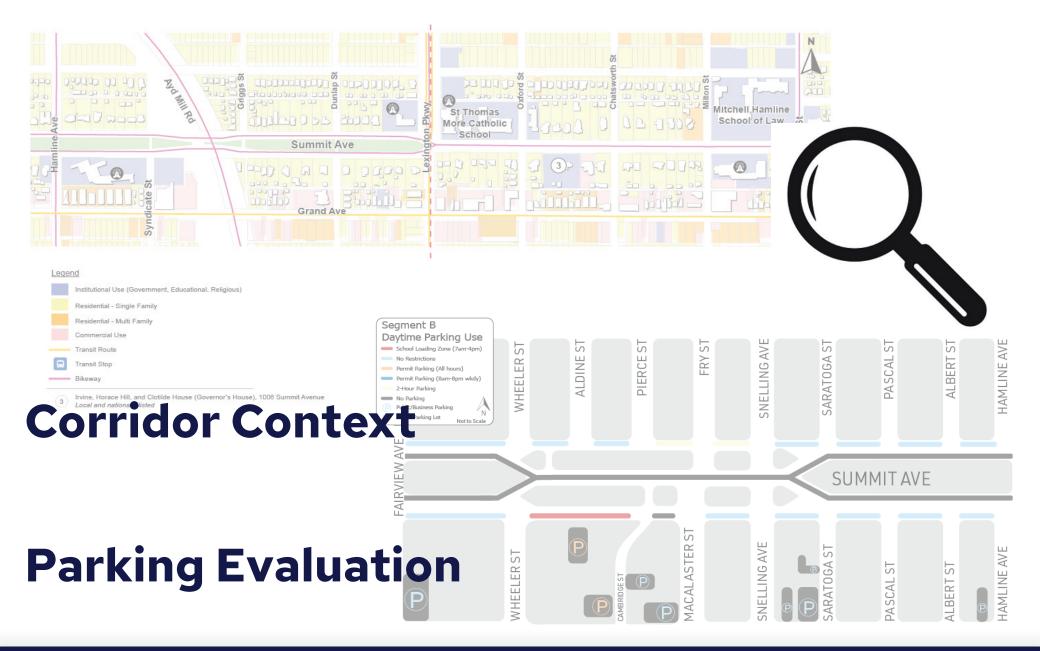
# **Analysis & Mapping...in progress**







# **Analysis & Mapping...in progress**







# **VISION - BREAKOUT SESSIONS**





## **VISION**

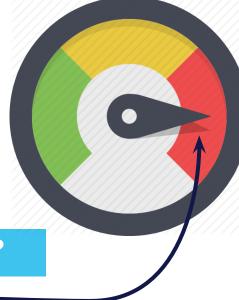
# **Discussion Objective:**

**Prioritize where the** 

trail can land



Are there any schematic 'non-starters', why/why not?



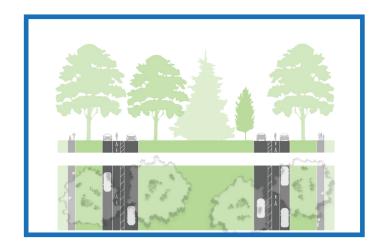


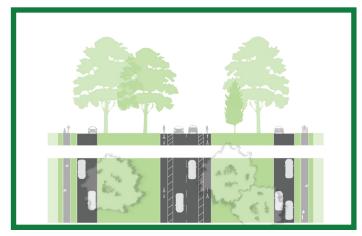


## **VISION**

### **Breakout Rooms**

- GROUP A Blue: Single Median
- Group B Green: Double Median
- Group C Orange: No Median









# See you again soon.... BREAKOUT SESSIONS





### **NEXT STEPS...**

**Next Week - DAC Follow-up review & Comments** 

Drop-In Virtual Engagement Sessions: Feb, Mar. April

Master Plan Document Drafts (30% - 60% - 90%)

**April TAC meeting #2** 



# THANK YOU!







#### **PROJECT CONTACT**

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